

Resolution 53/6

Follow-up to the promotion of best practices and lessons learned for the sustainability and integrity of alternative development programmes and the proposal to organize an international workshop and conference on alternative development

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,¹ that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,² the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971³ and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,⁴

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,⁵ the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,⁶ the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁷ the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁸ and, in particular, the Millennium Development Goals of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (goal 1) and ensuring environmental sustainability (goal 7),⁹

Stressing the commitments contained in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,¹⁰ adopted during the high-level segment of its fifty-second session,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/26 of 24 July 2008, entitled “Promoting sustainability and integrity in alternative development as an important part of drug control strategy in States where illicit crops are grown to produce drugs”, in which the Council recognized the relevance of alternative development and preventive alternative development, as appropriate, and the best practices and lessons learned in sustainable alternative livelihood development in Thailand,

Also recalling its resolution 52/6, entitled “Promoting best practices and lessons learned for the sustainability and integrity of alternative development programmes”, in which it requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with relevant international bodies, to continue promoting best practices and lessons learned from alternative development programmes in various

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

⁵ General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.

⁶ General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E.

⁷ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

⁸ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁹ A/56/326, annex.

¹⁰ A/64/92-E/2009/98, sect. II.A.

countries, including by organizing an international conference on that topic in 2010,

1. *Acknowledges* that alternative development ¹¹ is an important component in generating and promoting lawful, viable and sustainable economic alternatives to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of the efforts made by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies;

2. *Recognizes* the role played by developing countries in sharing best practices and in promoting and strengthening cooperation on integral and sustainable alternative development, which includes in some cases preventive alternative development, including cross-continental and interregional cooperation and subregional and regional technical cooperation;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the international expert group seminar and study tour held in Peru in July 2009 and organized in the framework of the Global Partnership on Alternative Development, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to promote South-South cooperation, on which occasion participants from Asia and South America shared useful lessons learned and techniques proven to be effective in reducing the cultivation of illicit drug crops, with a view to their eventual eradication, while securing a stable and fair livelihood for farmers;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, prepared pursuant to Commission resolution 52/6, entitled “Promoting best practices and lessons learned for the sustainability and integrality of alternative development programmes”,¹² in which best practices and lessons learned with regard to alternative development strategies, including preventive alternative development strategies, are highlighted;

5. *Welcomes* the proposal of Peru and Thailand to jointly host an international workshop, to be held in Thailand in November 2010, consisting of visits to various alternative development sites and discussions on best practices and lessons learned in alternative development with practitioners in the field, back to back with an international conference on alternative development among all stakeholders, to be organized in close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

¹¹ In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/33, 2007/12 and 2008/26, the concept of alternative development includes preventive alternative development.

¹² E/CN.7/2010/7 and Corr.1.

6. *Invites* Member States and relevant parties to actively participate in the above-mentioned international workshop and conference on alternative development, details of which will be circulated by the Secretariat in due course, and requests the Secretariat to report to the Commission at its fifty-fourth session on the outcome of those meetings including recommendations.

*10th Plenary Meeting
12 March 2010*